GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:731
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2017
Fluoride Affected Habitations
Galla Shri Jayadev

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Integrated Management Information System, 13 rural habitations have been identified as fluoride affected in Guntur Region of Andhra Pradesh in 2012-13;
(b) if so, the details of those habitations;
(c) the steps taken by the Government to make them fluoride-free habitations; and
(d) the details of technical and financial assistance provided to the State Government to deal with the above problem?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI)

(a) As reported by the States into Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as 01st April, 2013 there are 34 habitations are affected by fluoride in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Details of habitations affected by fluoride (more than permissible limit) as reported by the States into Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry as 01st April, 2013 in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh is at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d) Rural drinking water supply is a state subject. For improving the coverage of safe drinking water to rural population, this Ministry supplements the efforts of the states by providing them with technical and financial assistance through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). It is the State Governments who plan, design, approve, execute and operate & maintain the schemes for providing safe drinking water. Up to 67% fund allocated to the states can be utilized for coverage & tackling water quality problems.

Year wise funds allocated, released, expenditure incurred under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to Government of Andhra Pradesh from 2012-13 to 2017-18 (as on 12/07/17) is at Annexure-II.

States have been asked to focus for piped water supply schemes from safe and perennial surface water source for sustainability of the schemes. As immediate measures, with recommendation from NITI Aayog, Government of Andhra Pradesh has been provided funds to an extent of Rs. 21.26 Crore in March 2016 as 100% central share for providing Community Water Purification Plants (CWPPs) in 394 fluoride affected habitations.

The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation has set up a High Level Expert Committee in 2014 on Rural Drinking and Sanitation. So far committee has held eight meetings and recommended 41 technologies (30 for drinking water and 11 for sanitation). However, adoption of the technologies suggested by the Committee is only suggestive in nature for the States because choice of the technologies rests totally with the States.

In addition to this, the Ministry has launched a National Water Quality Sub-Mission on 22nd March 2017 to provide safe drinking water to about 28,000 arsenic / fluoride affected habitations in the country. During February / March 2017 under National Water Quality Sub-Mission funds to an amount of Rs. 11.83 lakhs has been released to complete 2 ongoing schemes of Andhra Pradesh State.

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